

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

1. An optical recording medium that is  
computer-readable and -writable, which medium stores  
software to be distributed, non-rewritable inherent ID  
information, and a transmission program for transmitting  
10 the inherent ID information to a software distributor  
via a communication device.

15

2. An optical recording medium that is  
computer-readable and -writable, which medium stores  
software to be distributed, non-rewritable inherent ID  
information, and a software updating program for  
20 rewriting and updating the software in accordance with  
update software transmitted from a software distributor  
via a communication device based on an authentication  
judgment result of the inherent ID information.

25

3. An optical recording medium that is computer-readable and -writable, which medium stores software to be distributed, non-rewritable inherent ID information, a transmission program for transmitting the  
5 inherent ID information to a software distributor via a communication device, and a software updating program of rewriting and updating the software in accordance with update software transmitted from the software distributor via the communication device based on an  
10 authentication judgment result of the inherent ID information.

15

4. The optical recording medium as claimed in claim 1, further storing a computer information acquiring program for acquiring information of a computer that is currently using the optical recording  
20 medium,

wherein the transmission program transmits the information of the computer, as well as the inherent ID information, to the software distributor.

25

5. A method of updating software distributed and stored in a computer-readable and -writable optical recording medium, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting non-rewritable inherent ID  
5 information to a software distributor via a communication device;

rewriting and updating the software in  
accordance with update software transmitted from the  
software distributor via the communication device based  
10 on an authentication judgment result of the inherent ID information.